

ABSTRACT

The present invention provides methods for identifying compounds useful for the treatment of wounds by determining whether the compound increases the expression of type I procollagen and/or type III procollagen by human fibroblasts cultured in the presence of collagen. The present invention also provides methods for treating wounds by applying to the wound and/ or surrounding tissue a therapeutically effective amount of anabolic steroid in a pharmaceutically acceptable formulation, wherein the steroid is not administered systemically to a patient. The present invention also provides compositions comprising at least one anabolic steroid in an amount effective to promote collagen production in at the site of a wound, wherein the composition is a pharmaceutically acceptable formulation suitable for local administration.